

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE
FEDERAL RULES OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE***

Rule 25. Filing and Service

(a) Filing.

* * * * *

(2) Filing: Method and Timeliness.

* * * * *

(D) Electronic filing. A court of appeals may by local rule permit or require papers to be filed, signed, or verified by electronic means that are consistent with technical standards, if any, that the Judicial Conference of the United States establishes. A paper filed by electronic means in compliance with a local rule constitutes a written paper for the purpose of applying these rules.

* * * * *

* New material is underlined; matter to be omitted is lined through.

Committee Note

Amended Rule 25(a)(2)(D) acknowledges that many courts have required electronic filing by means of a standing order, procedures manual, or local rule. These local practices reflect the advantages that courts and most litigants realize from electronic filing. Courts requiring electronic filing recognize the need to make exceptions for parties who cannot easily file by electronic means, and often recognize the advantage of more general “good cause” exceptions. Experience with these local practices will facilitate gradual convergence on uniform exceptions, whether in local rules or an amended Rule 25(a)(2)(D).